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| Today, July 29, | |
| Good Middling | 00.00 |
| Strict Middling | 40.00 |
| Middling | 39.00 |
| Lower Grades | 22 up |

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| Six months | \$1.25 |
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A PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

Letters from Mrs. Lucy P. Russell, Who sailed from New York June 12th, 1920, for a Tour of Europe. Written Expressly for the Rockingham Post-Dispatch.

LETTER NO. 4.

First One Thing And Then Another.

London, July 13, 1920.
Of this old land it may truly be said "every prospect pleases, and the climate and the coffee are vile." It rains every two hours and when it doesn't rain it pours and it is cold withal. The coffee is cold, thick and very bitter; could anything be worse? But the tea is excellent and one drinks it five times a day; it is served on boats, at R. R. stations, between acts at the theatres, any where and everywhere and all the time. The fish are fine too and of great variety; the oysters come flat and round like the lichens on old trees and taste about the same. The bread is "war bread," dark and tough because England has no longer the Russian wheat on which she depended for white bread, but it is wholesome and nutritious. The underground R. R. is different from ours; you go down steps until you seem deep enough and then take a "lift" which sinks from 50 to 100 feet still lower, then you rush up inclines and down inclines, through narrow slits in dark walls, up an "escalator" and down more inclines, down an "escalator," up some steps into another "lift" which lands you breathless on the proper platform, your train

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Team Strengthened.

During the past week the Rockingham team played four games, winning one from Cheraw (which this week beat Spencer twice) and losing three to Mayworth. However, the team is much stronger now, Clark having been added to the outfield, Hilton to pitching staff and Potts at shortstop. Belmont will be played at Belmont Friday and Saturday, and then Belmont comes here for games next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Belmont has a top-notch team, but we expect to hold them down.
The team goes to Spencer for three games the last three days of next week; Spencer comes here for Aug. 16, 17, 18.

Born, this (Thursday) afternoon at 3:30 to Mr. and Mrs. H. Fairly Long, a son, H. F. Jr.

SUPERIOR COURT

Important Criminal Term in Session. Judge Adams is Presiding. Jack Young Gin Case Results in a Mistrial. W. P. Ingram Gin Case in Hands of Jury as Paper Goes to Press. Foster Parsons Trial Began at 2:30 This (Thursday) Aft.

The July term of Superior Court for trial of criminal cases convened last Monday, July 26th, with Judge W. J. Adams, of Carthage, presiding, he having exchanged Courts with Judge P. A. McElroy, of Western North Carolina.

Judge Adams was promptly on time for opening Court Monday, and at once got down to business. And just here it might not be amiss to remark upon the unflinching courtesy displayed by Judge Adams to litigants, lawyers and all others having dealings with the Court.

The Grand Jury was drawn and impanelled, with J. LeGrand Everett as foreman and J. E. Manor as officer of same. The Grand Jury consisted of:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| H. E. Gibson | C. A. Boone |
| S. B. Smith | S. F. Liles |
| G. W. Farrand | E. M. Tyson |
| H. A. Hayward | D. A. Dollar |
| J. LeGrand Everett | N. D. Hicks |
| J. R. Wilson | J. W. Thomas |
| J. J. Newberry | M. L. Linker |
| D. D. McCoy | A. L. McNeill |
| C. D. Wallace | John Swink |

Of the 36 men summoned to appear as jurors, H. E. Gibbons, B. Stark and L. N. Hasty were reported by the Sheriff as not being found in the county.

Solicitor W. E. Brock then took up the docket.

State vs Johnnie Bonds, charged with larceny. Rich Hinson, of Hamlet, was on his bond for \$200. Johnnie failed to appear for trial, and so judgment absolute was rendered against the bondsman.
State vs Robert Worth and Carl Smith; both men plead guilty to gambling and are fined \$20 each and the costs.

State vs Charlie Baldwin; pleads guilty to assault with deadly weapon; fined \$50 and costs.

State vs H. D. Stewart; charged with making liquor. He is an aged white man of northeastern part of county. Pleads not guilty. Tried by jury and found not guilty.

State vs John McRae; pleads guilty to c. c. w. Fined \$50 and costs.

State vs Dan McQueen. The magistrate having found defendant not guilty and having taxed prosecuting witness with the costs, the said prosecuting witness (R. A. Derby) appealed to Superior Court. The judgment of the Court is that the judgment of the magistrate be re-

versed.
State vs Ben Griffin and Jessie Griffin; two colored youths; charged with assault with deadly weapons; live near Batley's Dairy. After evidence was in, the Solicitor asked for verdict of not guilty.

State vs Prince Adams; charged with vagancy; jury finds him guilty.

State vs W. J. Latham; charged with making liquor. After jury was impanelled and part of the evidence was introduced, the defendant pleads guilty.

State vs Mary Masuras; pleads guilty to larceny. She is a Greek woman living in Raleigh and stole a diamond ring from Langston, the jeweler at Hamlet. In this case the woman is sentenced to four months in jail to begin October 1st. She is required to pay all costs at once, but capias is not to be issued for her until October 1st. This gives her the opportunity to avoid serving the sentence by leaving the State, which she will do.

The Grand Jury on Monday returned a true bill against Robt. Wade charging larceny of Dr. Everett's car last winter. He is a young white man from High Point. The case was continued to next term on request of attorney for Wade, Mr. Leonidas Williams, who found it impossible to get here for this term.

State vs John Woodard; charged with breaking and entering. Jury finds him guilty. He is the young white man whom the colored watchman at Roberdel No. 2 some months ago discovered in the mill at night.

State vs Albert Terrell; charged with unlawfully entering a freight car and for larceny. The jury finds him guilty. In the first case judgment is suspended for two years, and in the larceny case the Judge sentences him to the roads for twelve months. His attorney, H. H. McLendon, of Wadesboro, gives notice of appeal to Supreme Court, and Terrell is released on \$500 bond for each of the two cases.

State vs Sam Dunlap; after the jury was impanelled, he pleads guilty to the charges of drunk and disorderly. He is a negro, and case came from Hamlet.

State vs L. Leak; pleads guilty

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Store Robbed.

On Monday night of last week the store of A. Arenson was broken in and a quantity of small stuff taken.

On Monday night of this week the Stephenson-Belk store was robbed, the thief breaking a pane of glass by a rear door, and pushing the bar from the door. About \$400 worth of goods were taken, consisting of several suits of clothes, shirts, shoes, etc.

Foster Parsons Case Being Tried

Trial of Foster Parsons, Charged with Murder of Negro Jitney Drivers, Began This (Thursday) afternoon at 2:30. Special Venire of 100 Summoned from which to Select Jury. Trial will Probably Require Several Days.

The eleven jurors as selected this afternoon, are as follows:

W. E. McNair, G. W. Coggins, Tom Snead, W. S. Pearson, A. C. Covington, Pearl Hogan, A. J. Lockhart, G. T. Sullivan, H. F. Stogner, E. B. Morse, W. C. Thomas.

Foster L. Parsons was arraigned on Wednesday morning charged with the deaths of Duck Phillips and Joe Wilson, two negro jitney drivers of Hamlet, on last August. The Court directed that a special venire of 100 men be summoned to appear in Court at 9:30 this (Thursday) morning.

Inasmuch as the W. P. Ingram case was being tried, the Parsons case was not reached until the re-convening of Court after dinner today. The Court-room was packed with interested spectators, and the special venire. Assisting the Solicitor are Attorneys L. H. Gibbons, of Hamlet, and H. F. Seawell, of Carthage.

For the defense appears W. R. Jones, of Rockingham, and A. M. Stack, of Monroe, and Thomas & Phillips, of Rockingham. Foster Parsons has a seat beside them, and just behind Foster sits his aged mother, sister, brother and his wife and six-months-old baby.

Dr. Taylor is here from Morganton to testify as an expert. Dr. Hall and the other specialists will probably arrive either Friday morning or Friday night.

The first juryman called to the box at 2:30 this afternoon was L. D. Husbands, of Hamlet. The State passed him, but the defense challenged him and he was excused. The next juryman was County Commissioner J. W. Capel, but he was allowed to excuse himself. The entire afternoon was spent in trying to get a jury, and the full special venire of 100 men were examined. Out of the 100 a total of eleven jurors were accepted, and Court adjourned at 6 o'clock this afternoon to convene again at 8 o'clock tonight. In the meantime the Sheriff is to summon 25 additional veniremen, and the remaining juror will be selected from this number after supper tonight.

After the jury is selected, the State will introduce its evidence, and it seems likely that the case cannot be finished by Saturday night. In that event, Court will adjourn till Monday and continue on with the case until it is finished. Judge Adams and Solicitor Brock are due to hold Court at Monroe next week, but the docket is small and the Union county term will simply have to wait until this important case is ended.

Foster Parsons is about 24 years old, and is the son of the late Allen M. Parsons, of near Blewett Falls.

Inasmuch as there is no controversy or question as to whether he killed the two negro jitney drivers or not, it will not be a miss for the paper to give briefly the dates and facts of the case. The question for the jurors to decide now is whether he was mentally unbalanced at the time of the homicides.

Briefly told, the history of the case is as follows:

On the night of August 7th, 1919, Foster Parsons came to Hamlet from Durham county, and hired a negro jitney driver, named Duck Phillips, to take him up the road towards Hoffman. This was about 10:30 at night; when near Marston the car stopped, the negro got out and started towards the front as though to crank it, saying he was

going back to Hamlet. Thereupon Parsons shot him, dragged the body a hundred yards into the woods and then proceeded with the car to Durham, which he reached about daybreak next morning. During the day he sold the car for \$250.

On Aug. 20th he again came to Hamlet, spent the night at the Terminal hotel and next morning hired another negro jitney driver, named Joe Wilson, to take him up the road. They first came to a store near Hannah Pickett mill, and then left Hamlet about 10 o'clock of the morning of Aug. 21st going towards Aberdeen. When on the main road near Keyser, Parsons (according to the statement made by him to Dr. Hall) pulled a pistol and snapped it several times at the negro's back. It then seemed to Parsons that the negro was becoming suspicious, for the man stopped the car, opened the

door and started to get out. Parsons says he thereupon snapped the pistol again and it fired, the bullet entering the head. The negro crumpled forward. He watched the body for a few minutes, then crawled to the front seat, got to steering wheel and taking a by-road drove into the woods where he dumped the body out. He then drove back to the main road and continued on towards Aberdeen. Near that town he stopped the car and went to sleep in it, until a farmer in passing awoke him. He says he was sick at the stomach and nauseated from the gin he had been drinking. He then went on to Durham. A few days later the body of Joe Wilson was found; the buzzards having eaten all the flesh from the bones with exception of a part of a foot in one shoe.

On the Saturday following the killing of Joe Wilson, Parsons left Durham with his wife and wife's sister and were headed back to this county when Chief Braswell stopped him at Sanford and arrested him. He was placed in jail at Rockingham, confessed to the killings and a special term of Court was ordered for October 6th to try him, with Judge W. P. Stacy presiding. When the trial was called, his attorneys arose and addressing His Honor, stated that their client was not mentally competent to the bill of indictment, and asked that instead of having a trial, a preliminary hearing be instituted instead to determine his mental capacity to stand trial. And so this was done. Dr. J. K. Hall and other experts testified both for and

Continued on page 4.

Prof. Cranford, of Troy, will be the speaker at the Home Coming at Green Lake next Sunday; he will be introduced by Mr. Preston Gibson.

LOUISE GLAUM

— IN —
"SEX"
— AT —

THE STAR THEATRE

Friday, July 30

Admission 20 and 30c.

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